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March 24, 2015

CIB Streets and Utilities Task Force C/o Daley Lehmann 15 W. Kellogg Blvd Saint Paul, MN 55102

Re: Prince Street and Trout Brook Road Extensions

Dear Streets and Utilities Task Force,

The Dayton's Bluff Community Council submits this letter in strong support of the Department of Public Works Prince Street and Trout Brook Road Extensions. Over the last three years the Dayton's Bluff Community Council has worked diligently to revive the business district on E. 7th Street. The Council is a major implementation partner for the Near East Side Roadmap, part of a major update of the area comprehensive plan. Through the *Make it Happen on East 7th Street* initiative we are doing business organizing and capacity-building, building inventories, corridor marketing and beautification, procuring funding to seed commercial district investment and improvements and doing new business recruitment. All of our work is predicated on the connection of the East Side to other major redevelopment and economic activity. This project increases those connections, and will be especially important if the East Side is going to benefit from the increased economic activity generated by the new Regional Ballpark.

The extension and construction of Prince Street and Trout Brook Road will provide a direct access into Lowertown, the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary and to the E. 7th Street business district. We strongly support this project, including the off-road trails, planting of boulevard trees and the street lighting system.

East 7th Street is in a period of major renaissance. We have many businesses that will interest the St. Paul Saints fans, and we look forward to the increased connectivity and access this project will bring to the East Side. We strongly urge full support of this project.

Sincerely,

Deanna Abbott-Foster
Executive Director